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AUTHOR	Einbinder, Susan D.
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ABSTRACT

This publication, the third in a series of annual updates concerning young children and their families living in poverty in the United States, incorporates new statistical information from the 1992 March Supplement to the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The data provide an estimate of family poverty status for 1991 as measured by the federal poverty line, which is adjusted for annual cost-of-living increases and scaled to family size, but is not adjusted for location. In 1991, the poverty line was $10,860 for a family of 3, and $13,924 for a family of 4. The update also reports that the 1990-91 recession had a significant impact on children under age 6 years in America, with the number of poor children in this age group rising from 5.3 million to 5.6 million. Other data reveal that minority children are more likely to be poor than white children, children under the age of 6 years are more likely to be poor than any other age group, poverty-prone children are more likely to be in single parent families, and the poverty rates for children under age 6 years are highest in urban areas. A special section of the report discusses the effects of the 1990-91 recession. Eight tables and seven figures are included. An attachment summarizes data provided in the document. (GLR)

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Five Million Children:

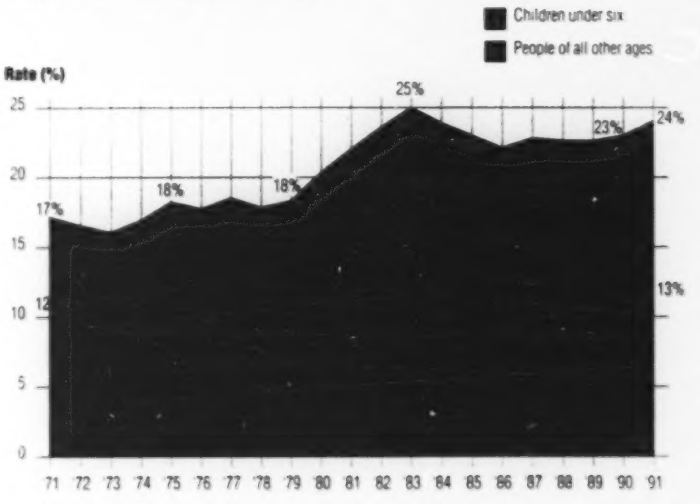
This publication is the third in a series of annual updates of statistical information about young children and their families living in poverty in the United States. It builds on the 1990 report *Five Million Children: A Statistical Profile of Our Poorest Young Citizens*, and it incorporates new statistical information from the 1992 March Supplement to the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (CPS). These data provide an estimate of family poverty status for 1991 as measured by the federal poverty line, which is adjusted for annual cost-of-living increases and scaled to family size, but is not adjusted for location. In 1991 the poverty line was $10,860 for a family of three, and $13,924 for a family of four.* A special section of this report discusses the effects of the 1990–1991 recession.

Poor Children Under Six: Who Are They, and Where Do They Live?

Over the last 20 years poverty rates have increased significantly for children under six, while remaining more or less stable for other people. In 1991 nearly one out of every four children under six lived in poverty.

From 1971 through 1979 the poverty rate for children under six was relatively stable at about 17 percent, while the poverty rate for people of all other ages was stable at about 12 percent. (The poverty rate is the percentage of people in any group who are poor—those with incomes below the federal poverty line.) The poverty rate began rising in 1980 and peaked in 1983 at 25 percent for young children, and at 14 percent for all others. Despite improving economic conditions from 1983 to 1989, the poverty rate for children under six declined only slightly, to about 23 percent, while the poverty rate for all other people declined to about 13 percent. In 1991 the poverty rate for children under six rose to 24 percent. (See Figure 1.)

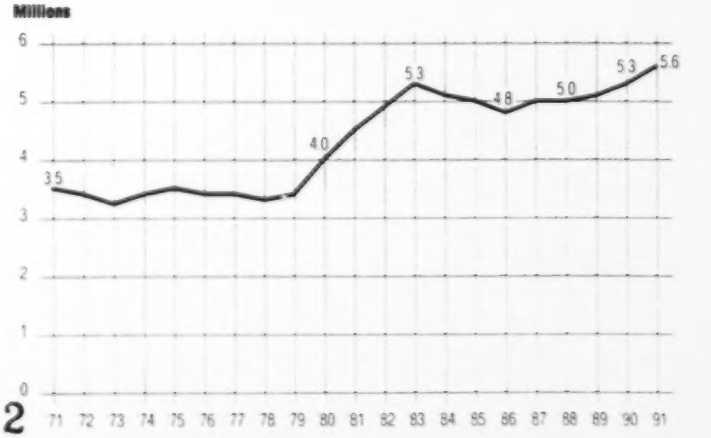
Figure 1: Poverty rates for children under six and people of all other ages, 1971–1991



Since the early 1980s the number of poor children under six has remained high—at about five million or more each year, reaching 5.6 million in 1991.

Trends in the number of children under six living in poverty parallel trends in poverty rates. Between 1971 and 1979 the number of children under six living in poverty was fairly stable at about 3.5 million. From 1979 to 1983 the number of poor children under six grew by more than 50 percent, to 5.3 million. Since 1983 the number has remained high. In 1991 there were 5.6 million poor children under six in the United States. (See Figure 2.)**

Figure 2: Number of poor children under six, 1971–1991



** Differences between findings in the 1991, 1992, and 1993 updates should not be interpreted as statistically significant unless noted. Note that because of rounding, percentages for subgroups may not add to 100 percent, and numbers may not add to totals.*

*** These estimates concern related children and do not reflect data concerning unrelated or foster children. In 1991, roughly 119,000 unrelated or foster care children lived with caregiver families.*

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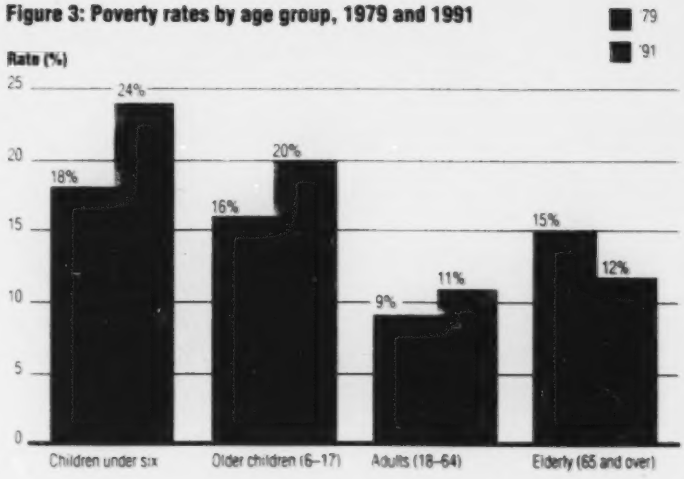
Children under the age of six are more likely to be poor than any other age group.

The 24 percent poverty rate for children under six in 1991 was higher than the rate for any other age group in the United States. It was more than double the rate for adults aged 18–64, double the rate for the elderly, people 65 and over, and higher than the rate for older children. (See Figure 3.)

In the 12-year period between 1979 and 1991, poverty rates increased for all age groups except the elderly. The poverty rate for children under six increased by 33 percent, while the poverty rates for older children and adults grew by 25 percent and 22 percent, respectively. Among the elderly, the poverty rate declined by 20 percent. (See Figure 3.)

Figure 3: Poverty rates by age group, 1979 and 1991

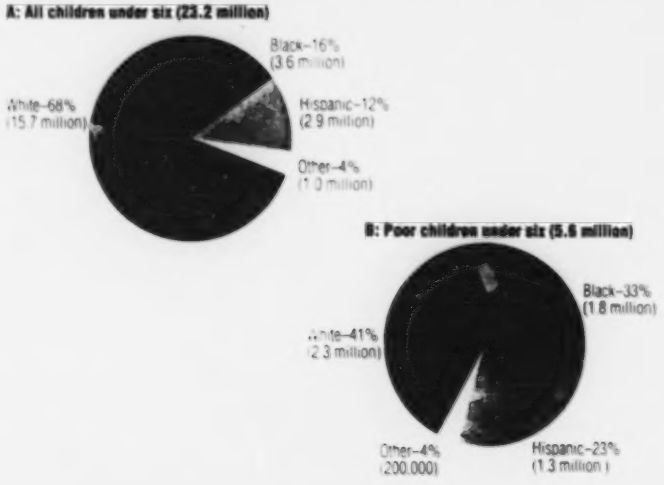


Of all children under six in 1991, 32 percent were minorities. However, 60 percent of poor children under six were minorities.

Of the 23.2 million children under six in 1991, 68 percent (15.7 million) were non-Hispanic white children, and 32 percent were minorities—16 percent (3.6 million) non-Hispanic black; 12 percent (2.9 million) Hispanic; and 4 percent (1.0 million) members of other racial or ethnic groups, such as Asian and Native American. (See Figure 4A.)

In contrast, of the 5.6 million *poor* children under six in 1991, some 41 percent (2.3 million) were non-Hispanic white, while some 60 percent (3.3 million) were minorities—33 percent (1.8 million) non-Hispanic black; 23 percent (1.3 million) Hispanic; and 4 percent (200,000) members of other racial or ethnic groups. (See Figure 4B.)

Figure 4: Percentage and number distribution of all children under six and of poor children under six by race/ethnicity, 1991

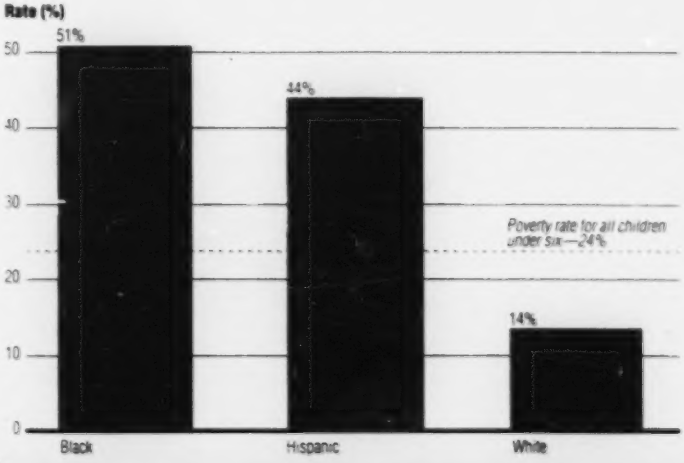


Minority children are much more likely to be poor than are white children.

Poverty rates vary greatly for different racial or ethnic groups. In 1991 the poverty rate for non-Hispanic black children under six was 51 percent. This rate has remained high since 1989, and the 1991 rate is the highest since the Census Bureau began reporting this information in 1960. For young Hispanic children, the poverty rate was 44 percent. The poverty rate for non-Hispanic white children under six was 14 percent. (See Figure 5.)*

** Estimates of poverty rates for other non-Hispanic and nonblack minority children are not included because the number of these children in the CPS sample is too small to permit reliable estimates.*

Figure 5: Poverty rates for children under six by race/ethnicity, 1991



Children under six living with single mothers are much more likely to be poor than are those living with two parents. Even so, 39 percent of poor young children lived in married-couple families in 1991.

In 1991 children under six living with single mothers were nearly five times as likely to be poor as were those living with two parents. The poverty rate for young children with single mothers was 59 percent, compared with 13 percent for those with two parents. (See Table 1.)

Since the mid-1970s the proportion of poor children living with single mothers has been increasing. By 1991 some 57 percent of all poor children under age six lived with single mothers, while 39 percent lived with two parents. (See Table 1.)

Table 1: Number and percentage distribution of all children under six and of poor children under six by family type, 1991

Family type	All children under six		Poor children under six		Poverty rate
	Number (in millions)	%	Number (in millions)	%	%
All families	23.2	100	5.6	100	24
Married-couple families	17.0	73	2.2	39	13
Single-parent families*	6.2	27	3.4	61	55
Mother-only	*5.4*	*23*	*3.2*	*57*	*59*

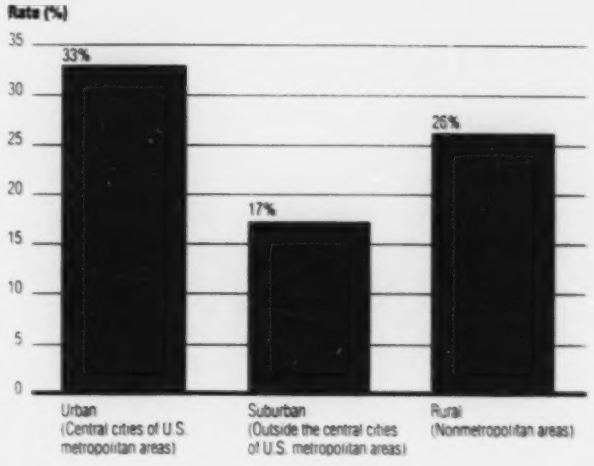
* *Includes children living in father-only, mother-only, and relative-only families. The CPS sample provides reliable estimates of poverty rates only for children living in the dominant form of single-parent families—single-mother families.*

Poverty rates for children under six are highest in urban areas.

In 1991 the poverty rate among children under six living in urban areas was 33 percent, compared with 17 percent in suburban areas and 26 percent in rural areas. (See Figure 6.) These estimates reflect adjustments for 800,000 poor children under six and 3.0 million nonpoor children under six whose residence codes the Census Bureau did not make available. The adjustments are based on Census Bureau data regarding the probable residential distribution of households with unavailable residence codes.

Out of the 5.6 million poor children under six in 1991, 44 percent (2.4 million) lived in central cities, 35 percent (1.9 million) lived in suburban areas, and 22 percent (1.2 million) lived in rural areas.

Figure 6: Poverty rates for children under six by residence, 1991

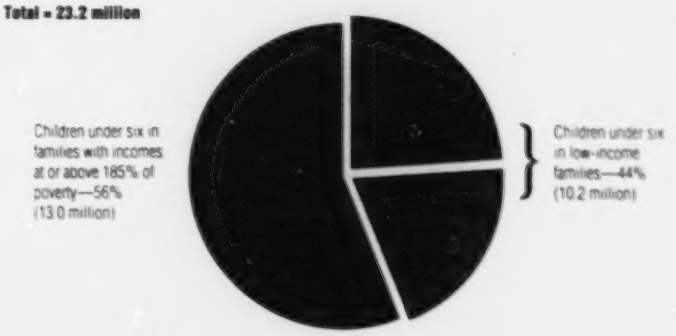


More than four out of every ten children under age six lived in low-income (poor and near-poor) families in 1991.

In 1991, 10.2 million children under six lived in low-income families—that is, families with incomes under 185 percent of the poverty line. (See Figure 7.)

That year an income at 185 percent of the poverty line—$20,091 for a family of three—was roughly half the median income—$37,923 for a family of three. A family of three with an income over the poverty line, but below 185 percent of poverty, would still qualify for some federal assistance programs—for example, WIC (Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children) and EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit).

Figure 7: Percentage and number distribution of all children under six by ratio of income to poverty, 1991


Total = 23.2 million
Children under six in families with incomes at or above 185% of poverty—56% (13.0 million)
Children under six in low-income families—44% (10.2 million)

The Effects of the 1990–1991 Recession on Children Under Six

"A recession is a recurring period of decline in total output, income, employment, and trade, usually lasting from six months to a year and marked by widespread contractions in many sectors of the economy."

—National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc. Cambridge, Massachusetts

The U.S. economy entered a recession in 1990. Production declined, unemployment rates increased, receipt of unemployment insurance benefits rose, and jobs became more scarce. Wages stagnated while the prices of goods continued to rise. The recession depressed the standard of living of many Americans, hurting some more than others.

Young children, who rely on their parents for their economic well-being, were especially vulnerable to the effects of the recession. Parents need sufficient income on a regular basis to provide for their children; the recession and the economy's slow recovery from it made this more difficult to accomplish. By examining changes between 1990 and 1991 in five areas, this special section of the update explores how the recession and its aftermath affected children under six. The areas examined are: the poverty rate; median family earnings and income; parental employment; receipt of unemployment insurance benefits; and receipt of food stamps and welfare benefits.

The recession officially began in July 1990, when the economy began to decline, and ended in March 1991, when the economy began to grow again. The end of the recession did not usher in immediate improvements, however. Economic recovery was unusually weak through 1991 and into 1992. The civilian unemployment rate rose from 5.5 percent in 1990 to 6.7 percent in 1991, and to 7.4 percent in 1992.* Other indicators also revealed that the economy remained stagnant long after the recession ended.

For this section, recession effects were estimated by comparing income and earnings data from the 1991 CPS March Supplement, which refers to calendar year 1990, with data from the 1992 CPS March Supplement, which refers to 1991. In the first two quarters of 1990, the baseline year, the economy was still growing, while in the last two quarters, the recession had begun. The recession continued through the first quarter of 1991, the comparison year, while the last three quarters of the year exhibited weak economic growth and still increasing unemployment. Because 1990 data reflected the early impact of the recession, the comparison of 1990 with 1991 data may underestimate the full impact of the recession, and the economy's slow recovery, on young children and their families.

* *U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Employment and Earnings, Vol. 40, No. 1, January 1993, Table 1.*

The poverty rate for children under six rose from 1990 to 1991.

In 1990, some 23 percent (5.3 million) of all children under six lived in families whose incomes fell below the poverty line. In 1991, 24 percent (5.6 million) of all young children lived in poverty, a statistically significant increase in the poverty rate.* The poverty rate remained at 59 percent for young children residing in single-mother families, although the number of poor children living in single-mother families increased. Among children under six residing in married-couple families, the poverty rate rose significantly—from 12 percent (2.1 million) in 1990 to almost 13 percent (2.2 million) in 1991. (See Table 2.)

* *Statistical significance was calculated according to the formula recommended by the Census Bureau. Differences in percentages expressed as standard errors for 1990–1991 are considered statistically significant at an alpha level of .10, which is the probability of concluding that the characteristics are different when in fact they are the same. The Census Bureau uses this alpha level to compare differences.*

Table 2: Number and poverty rate of children under six by family type, 1990 and 1991

	1990		1991		1990–1991
	Number (in thousands)	Poverty rate (SE)*	Number (in thousands)	Poverty rate (SE)*	Rate change (SE)* (in percentage)
All poor children under six	5,268	22.9 (0.4)	5,573	24.0 (0.4)	+1.1 (0.5)**
In married-couple families	2,084	12.1 (0.4)	2,158	12.7 (0.4)	+0.6 (0.4)**
In single-mother families	3,028	59.0 (1.0)	3,182	59.0 (1.0)	0.0 (1.0)

* *SE = standard error*

** *Statistically significant at .10*

Median earnings and incomes of families with children under six declined from 1990 to 1991.

During the recession wage levels stagnated and earnings declined. Some workers lost their jobs, and others moved from full-time to part-time employment. A look at two measures of economic well-being for young children—median family earnings from employment and median family income from all sources*—shows that both declined from 1990 to 1991, when adjusted for inflation.

Earnings from employment are by far the most important component of total household income for the average family. Among all children under six, median family earnings declined from $27,094 in 1990 to $26,500 in 1991, a 2 percent decline. Among poor children under six, median family earnings declined from $1,563 in 1990 to $692 in 1991, a loss of 56 percent. (See Table 3A.)

Among all children under six, median family income declined from $31,546 in 1990 to $30,200 in 1991, a loss of 4 percent. Among poor children under six, median family income decreased from $7,711 in 1990 to $7,216 in 1991, a loss of 6 percent. (See Table 3B.)

** Family income includes all cash income received by a family including earnings, transfer payments, and the value of cash benefits. Family earnings include only cash income from wages, salaries, and self-employment income of family members.*

Table 3. Median family earnings and incomes of children under six, by poverty status and family type, 1990 and 1991 (in 1991 dollars)

A: Median family earnings

Poverty status and family type	1990 Median (in dollars)	1991 Median (in dollars)	Change (in percentage)
All children under six	**$ 27,094**	**$ 26,500**	**-2.2**
In married-couple families	35,431	35,000	-1.2
In single-mother families	1,250	888	-29.0
Poor children under six	**1,563**	**692**	**-55.7**
In married-couple families	8,128	6,970	-14.2
In single-mother families	0*	0*	0*

B: Median family income

Poverty status and family type	1990 Median	1991 Median	Change
All children under six	**$ 31,546**	**$ 30,290**	**-4.3**
In married-couple families	37,828	37,500	-0.8
In single-mother families	10,356	9,600	-7.3
Poor children under six	**7,711**	**7,218**	**-6.4**
In married-couple families	10,421	10,300	-1.2
In single-mother families	6,007	5,953	-0.9

* *Zeros indicate that at least half of these children had a mother who had no earnings that year.*

Note: This table varies from standard usage by describing the family earnings and income of the median child under six when all children under six are ranked by the earnings and income of their families. This method allocates heavier weights to larger families and brings the median down from what it would be if the family were the unit of analysis, rather than the child.

Employment declined among parents of very young children between 1990 and 1991.

The proportion of all children under six whose parents were employed full-time or more declined from 74 percent in 1990 to 73 percent in 1991, even though their number increased—from 16.7 million to 16.9 million. The proportion of poor children whose parents were employed full-time or more also declined significantly, from 26 percent (1.4 million) in 1990 to 22 percent (1.2 million) in 1991. (See Table 4.)

As full-time employment rates among the parents of young children declined between 1990 and 1991, nonemployment* increased. In 1990, 12 percent (2.8 million) of all children under six resided with parents who were not employed at all. This percentage rose to 14 percent (3.2 million) in 1991, a statistically significant increase. Among poor young children, 41 percent (2.1 million) lived with parents who were not employed in 1990; by 1991, 46 percent of poor children (2.6 million) did.

** Parental "nonemployment" includes parents who are not employed but are actively looking for work, parents who would like to work but have given up looking for a job, and parents who do not want a job. Only the first category of parents are defined as "unemployed" when the unemployment rate is calculated.*

Table 4: Number and percentage distribution of children under six, by poverty status and combined parental employment status, 1990 and 1991

Poverty status and combined parental employment status	1990 Number (in thousands)	1990 % (SE)*	1991 Number (in thousands)	1991 % (SE)*	1990–1991 Change (SE)* (in percentage)
All children under six					
Full-time or more	16,719	73.7 (0.4)	16,893	72.8 (0.4)	-0.9 (0.5)**
Part-time	3,309	14.4 (0.3)	3,324	14.3 (0.3)	-0.1 (0.4)
Not employed	2,753	11.9 (0.3)	3,163	13.6 (0.3)	+1.7 (0.3)**
Poor children under six					
Full-time or more	1,369	26.0 (1.6)	1,244	22.3 (1.5)	-3.7 (1.6)**
Part-time	1,760	33.4 (1.7)	1,760	31.6 (1.7)	-1.8 (1.8)
Not employed	2,139	40.6 (2.9)	2,569	46.1 (1.8)	+5.5 (1.8)**

* *SE = standard error.*
** *Statistically significant at .10.*

Note: For the purpose of this update, two parents who each work part-time are defined as working the equivalent of one full-time job.

Unemployment rates rose among married couples with children under six from March 1991 to March 1992.*

The U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that approximately 1.3 million jobs were lost during the recession.** During March 1991, the unemployment rate*** for adults in married couples with young children was 6.0 percent. One year later their unemployment rate had increased to 6.7 percent, a significant rise. (See Table 5.)

Among poor adults in married-couple families with young children, the unemployment rate during March 1991, was 18.1 percent. One year later this rate was significantly higher—24.2 percent. Unemployment rates among single mothers with children under six did not change significantly from 1991 to 1992. A substantial proportion of young children, however, lived with single mothers who wanted to work but could not find employment.

* *While all other data in this report describe the status of children under six in calendar years 1990 and 1991, the parental unemployment rates are for the month of March following each calendar year.*

** *U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Employment and Unemployment Statistics, "Payroll Survey Employment Estimates: March 1992 Benchmark Revisions and Historical Corrections," June 4, 1993.*

*** *The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing the number of people not currently employed but actively seeking work, including those receiving unemployment benefits, by the total number of workers in the labor force (i.e., employed and unemployed). This calculation does not include discouraged "nonemployed" workers nor does it take into account workers who are employed for fewer hours than they would prefer.*

Table 5: Number of unemployed, and unemployment rates, among the parents of children under six, by family type and poverty status, 1991–1992

Family type and poverty status	March 1991	March 1992	1991–1992
Married-couple families	Number (in thousands)	Number (in thousands)	Change (SE)* (in percentage)
All	25,668	25,623	
Number of employed parents	24,133	23,918	
Number of unemployed parents	1,535	1,705	
Unemployment rate (SE)*	**6.0%** (0.2)	**6.7%** (0.2)	+0.7 (0.2)**
Poor	2,161	2,161	
Number of employed parents	1,770	1,639	
Number of unemployed parents	391	522	
Unemployment rate (SE)*	**18.1%** (2.2)	**24.2%** (2.4)	+6.1 (2.5)**
Single-mother families			
All	2,592	2,641	
Number of employed parents	2,087	2,157	
Number of unemployed parents	505	484	
Unemployment rate (SE)*	**19.5%** (1.1)	**18.3%** (1.1)	-1.2 (1.4)
Poor	1,041	1,038	
Number of employed parents	700	716	
Number of unemployed parents	341	322	
Unemployment rate (SE)*	**32.7%** (3.9)	**31.1%** (3.8)	-1.6 (4.0)

* *SE = standard error*
** *Statistically significant at .10*

Note: The unemployment rates reported here are for adults who are married couples with young children, derived according to a "postcomputation" method employed by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics: The number of employed and officially unemployed mothers and fathers of children under six in married-couple families are calculated first; then the number of unemployed parents is divided by the number of parents in the labor force, the standard formula for calculating the unemployment rate.

More young children lived in families receiving unemployment insurance benefits in 1991 than in 1990.

The proportion of children under six whose families received any unemployment insurance benefits during the previous 12 months increased significantly from 8.0 percent in 1990 to 10.1 percent in 1991. In 1991, some 16.5 percent of the poor children under six living in married-couple families benefited from unemployment insurance. (See Table 6.)

Unemployment insurance benefits, which vary in amount from state to state, ranged from a 1991 weekly average of $110 in Louisiana and Indiana to $213 in New Jersey. Eligible unemployed workers can receive this benefit for 26–30 weeks in each state, and in 1991 some 42 percent of all unemployed workers received this temporary wage replacement. In response to the recession, federal legislation extended the eligibility of recipients for an additional 26–33 weeks.* Unemployment insurance does not prevent young children and their families from falling into poverty.

* *Committee on Ways and Means, U. S. House of Representatives, Overview of Entitlement Programs, 1992 Green Book, Section 6, Tables 9 and 6.*

Table 6: Number and percentage distribution of children under six in families receiving unemployment insurance benefits, by poverty status and family type, 1990–1991

Poverty status and family type	1990		1991		1990–1991
	Number (in thousands)	% (SE)*	Number (in thousands)	% (SE)*	Change (SE)* (in percentage)
All children under six	1,845	8.0 (0.4)	2,340	10.1 (0.5)	+2.1 (0.3)**
In married-couple families	1,532	8.9 (0.3)	2,017	11.9 (0.4)	+3.0 (0.4)**
In single-mother families	229	4.5 (0.4)	224	4.2 (0.4)	-0.3 (0.4)
Poor children under six	287	5.4 (0.8)	472	8.5 (1.0)	+3.1 (1.0)**
In married-couple families	188	9.0 (1.7)	356	16.5 (2.2)	+7.5 (2.1)**
In single-mother families	86	2.8 (0.8)	84	2.7 (0.8)	-0.1 (0.9)

* *SE = standard error*
** *Statistically significant at .10*

More young children lived in families receiving food stamps in 1991 than in 1990.

Many low-income families are eligible for federally funded food stamps—coupons redeemable as cash for food. During the 1990–1991 recession and the economy's slow recovery period, food stamp applications rose to historically high levels. In 1991 about one in every 11 people received food stamp benefits.*

Food stamp receipt increased significantly among children under six between 1990 and 1991—reflecting how the recession affected all families with young children. Twenty percent of all children under six (4.6 million) lived in families who received food stamps in 1990. In 1991, 22 percent of all children under six (5.0 million) relied on food stamps, a statistically significant rise. (See Table 7.)

The majority of poor children under six in 1990 and 1991 lived in families who relied on food stamps to supplement their diets. Even so, although the number receiving food stamps increased from 1990 to 1991, the *proportion* of poor children under six whose families received food stamps remained stable at about 68 percent.

* *Committee on Ways and Means, U. S. House of Representatives, Overview of Entitlement Programs, 1992 Green Book, Appendix P.*

Table 7: Number and percentage distribution of children under six in families receiving food stamps, by poverty status and family type, 1990–1991

Poverty status and family type	1990		1991		1990–1991
	Number (in thousands)	% (SE)*	Number (in thousands)	% (SE)*	Change (SE)* (in percentage)
All children under six	4,551	19.8 (0.4)	5,028	21.7 (0.5)	+1.9 (0.5)**
In married-couple families	1,595	9.3 (0.3)	1,796	10.6 (0.4)	+1.3 (0.3)**
In single-mother families	2,812	54.8 (1.0)	3,031	56.1 (1.0)	+1.3 (1.2)**
Poor children under six	3,564	67.7 (1.8)	3,805	68.3 (1.7)	+0.6 (1.8)
In married-couple families	1,054	50.6 (2.9)	1,414	52.9 (2.9)	+2.3 (3.0)
In single-mother families	2,415	79.7 (2.0)	2,532	79.6 (2.0)	-0.1 (2.1)

* *SE = standard error*
** *Statistically significant at .10*

More children under six lived in families receiving welfare benefits in 1991 than in 1990.

During and after the recession, many families turned to welfare benefits for income support. Welfare benefits include cash assistance from Aid to Families with Dependent Children and General Assistance. In 1990, 16 percent (3.6 million) of all children under six resided in families who received welfare benefits; in 1991, 17 percent (3.9 million) of them did, a statistically significant rise. (See Table 8.) Even so, welfare benefits alone, which vary in amount on a state-by-state basis, do not raise family incomes above the poverty line.

Among all children living in married-couple families, receipt of welfare increased from 5.5 percent (948,000) in 1990 to 6.2 percent (1.1 million) in 1991, a statistically significant rise. Among poor children residing in married-couple families, 26 percent (549,000) received welfare benefits in 1990, and 31 percent (668,000) received them in 1991, a significant increase. The proportion of young children residing in single-mother families who received welfare did not increase significantly from 1990 to 1991, although the number increased.

Table 8: Number and percentage distribution of children under six in families receiving welfare benefits, by poverty status and family type, 1990–1991

Poverty status and family type	1990		1991		1990–1991
	Number (in thousands)	% (SE)*	Number (in thousands)	% (SE)*	Change (SE)* (in percentage)
All children under six	3,561	15.5 (0.4)	3,860	16.6 (0.4)	+1.1 (0.4)**
In married-couple families	948	5.5 (0.3)	1,052	6.2 (0.3)	+0.7 (0.3)**
In single-mother families	2,557	50.0 (2.1)	2,746	50.8 (1.0)	+0.8 (0.9)
Poor children under six	2,736	51.9 (1.9)	2,996	53.8 (1.8)	+1.9 (2.0)
In married-couple families	549	26.4 (2.6)	668	31.0 (2.6)	+4.6 (2.8)**
In single-mother families	2,155	71.2 (1.4)	2,288	71.9 (2.1)	+0.7 (2.0)

* *SE = standard error*
** *Statistically significant at .10*

The 1990–1991 recession and the economy's slow recovery seriously affected the already precarious economic status of many young children in the United States.

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- **Children and Youth—An Action Agenda** by D. Hamburg, M.D. Calls for communities to incorporate "family equivalent" functions in local programs to strengthen low-income families and to help nurture their children. Cites program examples. *Speech.* (1993). 20 pp. **$4.00.**
- **Child Care Consumer Education: Providing Critical Information to Low-income Parents.** Describes how to improve consumer education processes for informing low-income parents about subsidized child care alternatives. Cites experiences in JOBS programs in nine states. *Issue Brief.* (1993). 6 pp. **$4.00.**
- **Promoting Professionalism through Family Day Care Networks** by M. Larner and N. Chaudry. A study of eight networks in New York City neighborhoods operated through Child Care, Inc. *Report.* (1993). 36 pp. **$8.00.**

RECENTLY PUBLISHED:

- **Directory of Family Day Care Programs with a Low-income Focus** by M. Larner and N. Chaudry. Describes 88 family day care programs nationwide that serve child care providers in low-income communities or that organize family day care services for children in low-income families. (1993). 115 pp. **$8.00.**
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PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED:

- **Urban Poverty Database Inventory.** This interdisciplinary reference, with annotated descriptions of 160 databases, presents matrices that summarize previous and ongoing urban research studies in child/adolescent development, health, education, psychology, and sociology. Published in collaboration with the Social Science Research Council and Child Trends, Inc. (1992). 380 pp. **$35.00.**
- **Consumers and Child Care: An Annotated Bibliography,** by A. Mitchell. Describes books, articles, and reports about parental preferences and consumer education efforts about child care (1992). 24 pp. **$6.00.**
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- **Past Caring: A History of U.S. Preschool Care and Education for the Poor, 1820-1965** by E. D. Cahan. A description of 19th- and 20th-century infant and child care programs and education services. The review contributes a historical perspective to the planning of current policy initiatives. (1989). 60 pp. **$7.95.**
- **Successful Programs and the Bureaucratic Dilemma: Current Deliberations** by L. B. Schorr. The author identifies the essential attributes of programs that provide effective services for poor young children and their families. She suggests systemic changes and funding mechanisms needed for improvement. *Speech.* (1991). 16 pp. **$3.00.**
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- **Child Welfare Reform.** This report includes presentations by child welfare professionals at a 1991 educational forum, accompanied by a background paper by B. G. McGowan. *Report.* (1991). 58 pp. **$8.00.**
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- **Integrating Services Integration: An Overview of Initiatives, Issues, and Possibilities** by A. Kahn and S. Kamerman. This report describes past and current integration initiatives that deliver interagency, comprehensive services to low-income families and their children. *Working Paper.* (1992). 48 pp. **$10.00.**
- **A New Way to Fight Child Poverty and Welfare Dependence: The Child Support Assurance System (CSAS)** by I. Garfinkel, E. Phillips, and T. Corbett. This paper describes a proposed national Child Support Assurance System. *Working Paper.* (1992). 32 pp. **$6.00.**
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